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STAFF

EDITOR - J. E. Monroe, P. O. Box 98, Eagle Lake, Fla.
ASSEMBLY - Mr. & Mrs. Lee Trainor, Winter Haven, Fla.
PHOTO & PRINTING - Mr. George Wright, Ft. Myers, Fla.

AMERICAN HIBISCUS SOCIETY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Mr. Ralph Philo
2644 Marion St.
Ft. Myers, Florida

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
Mr. Lee Trainor
2512 Helms Road SE
Winter Haven, Florida

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
Mr. Eric Golby
Box 1881
Bradenton, Florida

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P. O. Box 1084
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507 Lakemont South
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P. O. Box 98
Eagle Lake, Florida

INTERNATIONAL NOMENCLATURE CO-ORDINATOR
Mrs. John Wylie
6904 Interbay Blvd.
Tampa 11, Florida

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is nearly nine months since my election as your President. The most gratifying fact has been the wonderful co-operation of each and every officer and board member, indicating an earnest desire to make this a great year in the history of the American Hibiscus Society.

We have suffered some heart breaking losses in our membership but must intensify our efforts because of the fine examples these members have set.

It has been a very busy period with our many fine shows and the launching of a vigorous hybridization program under the capable leadership of Harry Goulding, who has co-operated so fully to give our members an inspirational and practical program in this creative field. It is the opinion of this committee that the next three or four months offer a good opportunity for seed making. I sincerely hope that everyone who can will make a real effort to produce seed for their own use or for our seed bank.

If you have some surplus Hibiscus seed please send them to Dave Donaldson who is Chairman of our Seed Bank, as he has several foreign requests for seed, which he would like to comply with.

Once again as in former years our winter display and show at the Florida State Fair was a great success, thanks to the many who helped. Some fine seedlings added a great deal to the show.

Our judging and show rules committee under the leadership of First V. P. Lee Trainor is making a determined effort to present material to our Annual Membership Meeting in June which should bring about considerable improvement in the handling of details in the hope of removing the few irritations that have occurred. It is my sincere hope that all our show committees will do everything possible to bring about results that will bring happiness to everyone.

It is my feeling that we are on the edge of great happenings in 1967, if we work together in this great enterprise of more and better Hibiscus for our shows.

Ralph H. Philo